

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. No new subject matter has been added. Reconsideration is requested.

Claim Objections

Claim 20 is currently amended to accommodate the suggested change.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7 and 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Levine et al. (US 5,974,234). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, 11 and 19 have been amended to specify a first system having a first queue and a second system having a second queue that are both located on different computing devices connected together through an Internet network or Local Area Network (LAN). This is clearly shown in figure 1.

Claim 2 and claim 19 have been amended to specify the first system as a network server coupled to the Internet or LAN network and the second system as a peripheral device coupled to the Internet or LAN network. Claims 2 and 19 also including the following limitations:

monitoring both the first queue on the network server and the second queue on the peripheral device remotely through the network so that jobs for the first and second queue appear together as a single displayed list of queue jobs;

receiving user job requests that effect the status of jobs in both the first queue in the network server and the second queue in the peripheral device; and

automatically controlling the jobs in both the first queue and second queue to correspond with the user job requests through commands and responses sent and received over the network.

This is all clearly shown in figures 1-7 and described in detail in the specification. The queue manager 15 in FIG. 1 receives a user job request associated with one of the different devices on network 18 and then automatically sends network messages to the separate queues 24 and 28 to correspond to the user job request. This eliminates a user from having to discover each device in the network that may have a job queue. The queue manager 15 also automatically synchronizes the disparate asynchronous job queues so that the user job quest associated with one of the job queues is automatically coordinated with the other jobs that currently reside on both job queues. The queue manager 15 allows a user to

change priority or status of a print job with respect to all the print jobs on the network therefore providing more effective job management and more accurate presentation of job status.

Levine et al. (Levine) does not disclose a method for managing multiple independently operating queues through a network. Levine discloses devices 200 (Figure 5, tag 200) that comprise a current job queue (Col. 10, line 51), which is the queue for the network server (col. 10, lines 5-21). But Levine does not disclose a separate peripheral device (a second system different than the first system, as recited in claim 1 of the present invention) and network server. Furthermore, Levine does not teach a queue manager (Figure 5, block 204) that is located at a different location on the network from the network server 107 (col. 10, line 5). As Figure 5 of Levine shows, the management of the server queue 204 (col. 10, lines 45-55) is within the network server 107 itself. Therefore Levine does not teach managing multiple queues (a network queue and a peripheral device queue) through a network, and Levine does not disclose each and every element of independent claim 1, 11 and 19.

Claims 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Levine et al. (US 5,974,234), as applied to claim 1. The applicant asserts that claims 3-7 recite additional novel and non-obvious features that are also patentable over Levine, Webster, or Shen.

Neither Levine, Webster, or Shen, or any combination thereof suggest a computer for providing queue management through a network to a network server and a peripheral device. Levine's queue management is within network server 107 (Figure 5 and col. 10, lines 5-22), in block 204 for example, as opposed to external to the network server 107. Levine does not disclose a peripheral device 200 (Figure 5) that is independently operating from the network server 107. Therefore Levine, Webster, and Shen do not disclose each and every element of independent claims 3-7.

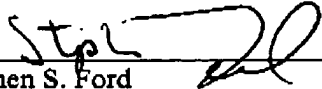
In order to synchronize the print jobs on separate network devices, Applicant's queue manager 15 sends separate job requests to each separate network device and then coordinates the jobs according to the responses to the separate job requests. This is further specified in claims 6-9 and 15-16 where the same user job request is sent over the network to each device. These ensures the jobs on the different network devices are synchronized. These operations are not suggested in Levine, Webster, or Shen.

CONCLUSION

The prior art made of record but not relied upon has been reviewed and is not considered pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-20 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,



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